

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 9, 2007

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 19, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1300**

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Price**

February 23, 2007

---

An act to amend Sections 1710 and 1714 of, and to add Section 1712.1 to, the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to juveniles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1300, as amended, Price. The Family Connection and Young Offender Rehabilitation Act of 2007.

(1) Existing law states that the purpose of the Division of Juvenile Programs within the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is to provide comprehensive training, treatment, and rehabilitative services to youthful offenders under the jurisdiction of the department, that are designed to promote community restoration and accountability to victims, and to produce youth who become law-abiding and productive members of society.

This bill would expand the purpose of the division to include the provision of comprehensive education to youthful offenders, in addition to training, treatment, and rehabilitative services, and it would provide that the services shall be designed to promote family ties, in addition to community restoration and accountability to victims, and to produce youth who become law-abiding and productive members of society.

This bill would provide that a ward confined in a facility of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Juvenile Facilities, shall be encouraged to communicate with family members,

clergy, and others, and to participate in programs, that will facilitate his or her education, rehabilitation, and accountability to victims, and that may help the ward become a law-abiding and productive member of society. Among other things, the bill would require the division to provide low-cost telephone-service options, and would require the division or facility to maintain a toll-free telephone number for information relating to visitation.

(2) Existing law authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to transfer persons confined in one institution or facility of the Division of Juvenile Facilities to another.

This bill would require proximity to family to be considered in placement of those persons.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 Family Connection and Young Offender Rehabilitation Act of  
3 2007.

4 SEC. 2. Section 1710 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is  
5 amended to read:

6 1710. (a) Commencing July 1, 2005, any reference to the  
7 Department of the Youth Authority in this or any other code refers  
8 to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of  
9 Juvenile Facilities.

10 (b) The Legislature finds and declares the following:

11 (1) The purpose of the Division of Juvenile Facilities within the  
12 Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is to protect society  
13 from the consequences of criminal activity by providing for the  
14 secure custody of wards, and to effectively and efficiently operate  
15 and manage facilities housing youthful offenders under the  
16 jurisdiction of the department, consistent with the purposes set  
17 forth in Section 1700.

18 (2) The purpose of the Division of Juvenile Programs within  
19 the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is to provide  
20 comprehensive education, training, treatment, and rehabilitative  
21 services to youthful offenders under the jurisdiction of the  
22 department, that are designed to promote community restoration,  
23 family ties, and accountability to victims, and to produce youth

1 who become law-abiding and productive members of society,  
2 consistent with the purposes set forth in Section 202.

3 (3) The purpose of the Division of Juvenile Parole Operations  
4 within the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is to  
5 monitor and supervise the reentry into society of youthful offenders  
6 under the jurisdiction of the department, and to promote the  
7 successful reintegration of youthful offenders into society, in order  
8 to reduce the rate of recidivism, thereby increasing public safety.

9 SEC. 3. Section 1712.1 is added to the Welfare and Institutions  
10 Code, to read:

11 1712.1. (a) A ward confined in a facility of the Department  
12 of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Juvenile Facilities,  
13 shall be encouraged to communicate with family members, clergy,  
14 and others, and to participate in programs that will facilitate his  
15 or her education, rehabilitation, and accountability to victims, and  
16 that may help the ward become a law-abiding and productive  
17 member of society. If the division or a facility requires a ward to  
18 provide a list of allowed visitors, calls, or correspondents, that list  
19 shall be transferable from facility to facility, so that the transfer  
20 of the ward does not unduly interrupt family and community  
21 communication.

22 (b) (1) A ward confined in a facility of the division shall be  
23 allowed to make telephone calls in a manner that does not provide  
24 undue financial burden on his or her family. All personal calls of  
25 a ward shall be made using a calling system approved by the  
26 division that is at least as secure as the system it replaces. In  
27 approving one or more calling systems, the division shall consider  
28 the safety of the public, the ability to reduce telephone fraud, and  
29 the ability of families to select a low-cost option. In addition to  
30 collect long distance calls, a ward shall be allowed payment plans,  
31 including, but not limited to, prepaid phone service-cards and plans  
32 from companies with a contract with the division or facility. Phone  
33 ~~cards and plans~~ may be paid for by families, clergy, counsel, the  
34 ward, or other persons allowed by the division or facility.

35 (2) Restrictions on telephone calls shall not be imposed as a  
36 disciplinary measure. If calls conflict with institutional operations,  
37 supervision, or security, telephone usage may be restricted to the  
38 extent reasonably necessary for the continued operation and  
39 security of the facility.

1 (c) (1) If a ward's visitation rights are suspended, division or  
2 facility staff shall be prepared to inform one or more persons on  
3 the list of those persons allowed to visit the ward, if any of those  
4 persons should call to ask.

5 (2) The division or facility shall maintain a toll-free telephone  
6 number that families and others may call to confirm visiting times,  
7 and to provide timely updates on interruptions and rescheduling  
8 of visiting days, times, and conditions.

9 SEC. 4. Section 1714 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is  
10 amended to read:

11 1714. The Secretary of the Department of Corrections and  
12 Rehabilitation may transfer persons confined in one institution or  
13 facility of the Division of Juvenile Facilities to another. Proximity  
14 to family shall be one consideration in placement.